

CYGNUS MUSICUS Bechst.

Six examples were shot on the river out of a "herd" of ten in December 1899.

ANSER RUBRIROSTRIS Hodgson.

I have only once met with this species. It was a male shot in November.

ANSER OATESI Rickett, Bull. B. O. C. vol. xi. p. 46.

On my return to Foochow I heard that Mr. C. McAllum, of the Imp. Maritime Customs at Santu, had observed some small Geese in the Bay during the previous winter. I consequently wrote to him and he kindly favoured me with the following information:—

There were in all about forty birds in the flock, which he had often tried to approach, but without success. On one occasion, however, when he had no gun, they rose within easy shot, and he noted that their legs appeared to be flesh-coloured. They seemed to prefer rice-fields to the mud-flats, "and rose without the cries common to the other Geese."

Santu is situated in Samscha Bay, an inlet a few miles north of the mouth of the river. It was there that the type was obtained.

OIDEMIA CARBO (Pall.).

Occurs in winter, but is not common. All the specimens that I have seen were in immature plumage.

XX.—*An Annotated List of the Birds observed on the Orange River between Aliwal North and Odendaalstroom from Dec. 21st, 1901, to June 21st, 1902.* By C. H. T. WHITEHEAD, Lieut. 1st Bat. Highland Light Infantry.

[MR. WHITEHEAD was stationed during the latter part of the South-African war in the line of blockhouses running along the Orange River between Aliwal North and Norval's Pont. I had some correspondence with him in regard to birds, and asked him to keep notes of all those he met with. This

he has done, and my part in the work has been only to transcribe the notes and correct one or two obvious errors.

So few faunal lists of the birds of any part of South Africa have been prepared that any contribution is of value in assisting us to gain some idea of their local distribution.

References are added to Stark's volumes on South-African birds, so far as they go, and afterwards to Sharpe's edition of Layard.—W. L. S.]

1. *CORVUS SCAPULATUS*. (Stark, i. p. 12.)

Very common.

2. *DILOPHUS CARUNCULATUS*. (Stark, i. p. 23.)

Very common. Arrived about the end of December.

3. *AMYDRUS MORIO*. (Stark, i. p. 26.)

Not common. Generally seen in rocky places. A nest was found in a mill.

4. *AMYDRUS CAFFER*. (Stark, i. p. 28.)

A colony of these fine Starlings inhabited a neighbouring cliff. Their cries were rather like those of the Red-winged Starling (*A. morio*), but could be easily distinguished.

5. *SPREO BICOLOR*. (Stark, i. p. 30.)

Very common, and observed nesting in a donga.

6. *LAMPROCOLIUS PHENICOPTERUS*. (Stark, i. p. 38.)

Common. Found more often in the bush than other Starlings.

7. *HYPHANTORNIS VELATUS*. (Stark, i. p. 58.)

Very common.

8. *PLOCEIPASSER MAHALI*. (Stark, i. p. 83.)

I saw four of these birds on Feb. 23rd feeding with the Sparrows in some horse-lines on the south bank of the river. Before rising, and as they did so, they gave utterance to a twitter and a few loud chattering notes.

9. *SPOROPIPES SQUAMIFRONS*. (Stark, i. p. 86.)

Very common in flocks when not nesting. Frequently seen in the horse-lines, but generally amongst the heath or

in the bush. Nests of this bird were found in March. They were untidy and conspicuous structures, placed about six or seven feet above the ground.

10. *ESTRILDA ASTRILD.* (Stark, i. p. 98.)

Common and usually feeding in the bush in flocks. A nest was found in March, well hidden at the bottom of a bush. It contained seven eggs, varying considerably in size and shape.

11. *PYROMELANA ORYX.* (Stark, i. p. 126.)

Not very common. Usually seen in the horse-lines or at the outspans. Sparrow-like in its habits.

12. *COLIOPASSER PROCNE.* (Stark, i. p. 139.)

Common.

13. *VIDUA PRINCIPALIS.* (Stark, i. p. 145.)

Fairly common.

14. *PASSER ARCUATUS.* (Stark, i. p. 160.)

Very common.

15. *PASSER DIFFUSUS.* (Stark, i. p. 163.)

Fairly common. Usually seen singly or in pairs in the bush. Occasionally visited the horse-lines.

16. *SERINUS CANICOLLIS.* (Stark, i. p. 168.)

I did not observe this bird until I went to Aliwal North in June. There I saw a flock feeding with the Yellow-bellied Seed-eater (*S. flaviventris*).

17. *SERINUS FLAVIVENTRIS.* (Stark, i. p. 170.)

This bird has a pretty song. I found a good many of its nests in March. They were flimsy structures, and frequently burst when the young were nearly fledged. They were usually placed about four feet above the ground in a thorn-bush.

18. *SERINUS ALBIGULARIS.* (Stark, i. p. 174.)

Quite common. Very fond of the seeds of a kind of poppy-like plant with pale yellow flowers.

19. *ALARIO ALARIO.* (Stark, i. p. 179.)

A flock of these birds stayed for a long time near a small

spring, which they frequently visited. They fed on the seeds of various heaths in the neighbourhood. They were very tame and had a sweet song. At night they roosted in the bush along the river.

20. FRINGILLARIA CAPENSIS. (Stark, i. p. 187.)

Very common and tame. I found a nest containing three eggs in some heather.

21. FRINGILLARIA TAHAPISI. (Stark, i. p. 189.)

I only saw this species twice—on the 14th of April and the 9th of May. In habits it appeared to resemble the other species of the genus, but the difference in plumage at once caught my eye.

22. FRINGILLARIA IMPETUANI. (Stark, i. p. 190.)

Like the Mountain Canary (*Alario alario*), this species was generally to be seen drinking at the springs. It feeds chiefly on grass-seeds and is a good songster.

23. CALENDULA CRASSIROSTRIS. (Stark, i. p. 202.)

Very common. I found two nests, both well hidden, at the bottom of some heath. The eggs, three in number, were spotted with black varying to greenish black. This bird could always be recognised by its short song, uttered either from a twig of heath or from an ant-hill, or sometimes when on the wing.

24. MIRAFRA NEVIA. (Stark, i. p. 209.)

I saw a small party of these Larks feeding in the open near Aliwal North on June 20th. They were very tame and unwilling to rise.

25. MIRAFRA RUFIPILEA. (Stark, i. p. 218.)

Common. I did not notice this bird's "*phew*" or wing-cracking noise nearly so much or so often as that of the Bar-tailed Lark (*M. apiata*). At times we did not notice it for weeks together, whereas at Port Elizabeth we heard that of the Bar-tailed Lark every day, and often all day, and this in winter from June to August.

26. TEPHIROCORYS CINEREA. (Stark, i. p. 222.)

Very common, especially near the outspans and farms.

27. *CERTHILAUDA RUFULA*. (Stark, i. p. 234.)

Very common. Always seen in small parties feeding on the old veld. The note, on rising, of the bird on the Orange River differs appreciably from that of the same bird at Port Elizabeth.

28. *MACRONYX CAPENSIS*. (Stark, i. p. 238.)

Not common in summer, but becoming very abundant in late autumn and winter. I first saw a pair on Jan. 9th.

29. *ANTHUS PYRRHONOTUS*. (Stark, i. p. 250.)

Very common.

30. *ANTHUS RUFULUS*. (Stark, i. p. 251.)

Fairly common.

31. *MOTACILLA VIDUA*. (Stark, i. p. 255.)

Very common, especially at the edge of the water; extremely active, always calling and singing, and very tame.

32. *MOTACILLA CAPENSIS*. (Stark, i. p. 259.)

Very common. I found a nest with three eggs in the bank of a donga.

33. *NECTARINIA FAMOSA*. (Stark, i. p. 276.)

I often watched this Sun-bird hovering in front of the yellow flowers of a tree to extract the nectar, but it does not always do this—it equally often perches.

34. *ZOSTEROPS CAPENSIS*. (Stark, i. p. 302.)

Very common. Generally seen in small family-parties in the willows, though in other bushes also. I found a nest at the top of a small willow fifteen feet from the ground in February. It contained one egg and two young.

35. *PARUS AFER*. (Stark, i. p. 305.)

Fairly common and very tame. In the early morning one of these Tits used frequently to perch on the top of my tent and sing.

36. *UROLESTES MELANOLEUCUS*. (Stark, ii. p. 3.)

Not common. I saw one or two of these birds among the bushes on the north bank of the river.

37. *LANIUS COLLARIS*. (Stark, ii. p. 6.)

Very common. I found a nest with three eggs.

38. *LANIUS SUBCORONATUS*. (Stark, ii. p. 9.)

I saw one or two of these Shrikes; in their habits they resembled the previous species.

39. *LANIUS COLLURIO*. (Stark, ii. p. 11.)

I saw this Shrike twice. On Feb. 14th, as I was riding along, I heard its familiar note, and on looking up saw the bird perched on a bush.

40. *NILAUS BRUBRU*. (Stark, ii. p. 16.)

I only saw this bird once; it was perched on a willow and allowed a pretty close approach.

41. *DRYOSCOPIUS CUBLA*. (Stark, ii. p. 25.)

I am not certain of having seen this species. The bird I took for it was rather like a Fiscal, and was sitting on a vine-fence. When it saw me it puffed out the feathers of its back.

42. *LANIARIUS GUTTURALIS*. (Stark, ii. p. 33.)

Very common.

43. *PYCNONOTUS NIGRICANS*. (Stark, ii. p. 64.)

Very common and extremely noisy. Its favourite note is "piture, piture." I found several nests; they are slender but strong structures, made of long fine roots. The eggs are three in number, much marked with red. The adults have a bright red eyelid; young birds, I believe, have it black.

44. *PARISOMA SUBCÆRULEUM*. (Stark, ii. p. 75.)

Very common, but rather difficult to see, on account of the way in which it skulks about at the bottom of bushes.

45. *PHYLLOSCOPUS TROCHILUS*. (Stark, ii. p. 84.)

I saw a Willow-Wren on Jan. 26th.

46. *EREMOMELA FLAVIVENTRIS*. (Stark, ii. p. 106.)

Fairly common and very tame. Generally seen on a thorn-tree searching for insects.

47. *SYLVIELLA RUFESCENS*. (Stark, ii. p. 115.)

Fairly common.

48. *APALIS SCITA*. (Stark, ii. p. 122.)

Common, but difficult to observe, because of its great activity.

49. *PRINIA SUBSTRIATA*. (Stark, ii. p. 131.)

Fairly common on both banks of the river; easily recognised by its note.

50. *PRINIA HYPOXANTHA*. (Stark, ii. p. 132.)

I saw several of these birds; they resembled the previous species in their habits, but were not so active.

51. *PRINIA MACULOSA*. (Stark, ii. p. 133.)

Very common.

52. *SPILOPTILA OCLARIA* (Smith). (Stark, ii. p. 138.)

Very common. Generally seen on the open veld, creeping and flitting about amongst the heath while feeding.

53. *CISTICOLA FULVICAPILLA*. (Stark, ii. p. 141.)

Fairly common. Generally seen about the bushes.

54. *CISTICOLA TERRESTRIS*. (Stark, ii. p. 149.)

Common, but difficult to observe, as it generally alights in thick tall grass.

55. *CISTICOLA SUBRUFICAPILLA*. (Stark, ii. p. 151.)

I only saw this Grass-Warbler once. I put it up and it flew a short distance; it then hid under some heath, and allowed me to come almost within touching distance.

56. *TURDUS OLIVACEUS*. (Stark, ii. p. 175.)

This very common Thrush reminded me much of the English Blackbird, not only by the way in which it skulked about at the bottom of the bushes and by its notes, but also by its nest and eggs. The nest, however, is usually less solid and is built in a more conspicuous place, the horizontal bough of a willow being a favourite position. The colour of the breast of this species varies a good deal.

57. *MONTICOLA EXPLORATOR*. (Stark, ii. p. 183.)

Not very common, but after the snow cleared away individuals collected together from the hills, and one day I saw a dozen of them feeding with the Larks and Pipits.

58. MYRMECOCICHLA FORMICIVORA. (Stark, ii. p. 186.)

Very common. Sings well, both on the ground and whilst hovering. It is fond of flying up vertically fifteen feet or so and hovering for a few seconds, sometimes to sing, at other times apparently to catch flies. This is the most noticeable bird on the veld.

59. PRATINCOLA TORQUATA. (Stark, ii. p. 190.)

Not very common. Usually seen in pairs.

60. SAXICOLA MONTICOLA. (Stark, ii. p. 194.)

Very common. I saw it in all stages of plumage. In habits it is similar to the Ant-eating Chat (*Myrmecocichla formicivora*), though it usually flies up obliquely instead of vertically before hovering.

61. SAXICOLA PILEATA. (Stark, ii. p. 196.)

Common near Aliwal North. I generally saw this species feeding with the Larks, though if a Lark settled near a Wheatear it was always driven off.

62. SAXICOLA LAYARDI. (Stark, ii. p. 200.)

Very common and tame. Usually in family-parties feeding amongst the heath in the open. When put up it moves off with a jerky flight, uttering a squeak with each jerk, but rarely going far.

63. SAXICOLA FAMILIARIS. (Stark, ii. p. 201.)

Very common. A pair of these birds used to frequent my hut. One day as I was sitting in it one of them flew to my shoulder and then to my knee. I found a nest on the top of an old ant-hill with three young in it.

64. COSSYPHA CAFFRA. (Stark, ii. p. 213.)

Very common. I found several nests, which strongly reminded me of those of our English Robin.

65. TARSIGER SILENS. (Stark, ii. p. 219.)

Fairly common. By no means a silent bird. Generally seen perched on the top of a bush, and often making a great deal of noise.

66. *ERYTHROPYGIA CORYPHÆUS*. (Stark, ii. p. 229.)

Very common and noisy.

67. *DICRURUS AFER*. (Stark, ii. p. 265.)

A pair was seen on the river-bank early in June.

68. *COTILE PALUDICOLA*. (Stark, ii. p. 283.)

Very common. It nested in holes on the banks of dongas, just like the English Sand-Martin.

69. *COTILE CINCTA*. (Stark, ii. p. 284.)

A number of these Martins appeared about the 19th of April and disappeared again about a week later.

70. *PTYONOPROGNE FULIGULA*. (Stark, ii. p. 287.)

A few pairs of this species frequented some rocky kopjes. They seemed just as active in the middle of the day as in the evening.

71. *HIRUNDO RUSTICA*. (Stark, ii. p. 289.)

Very common, but departing early in April.

72. *HIRUNDO ALBIGULARIS*. (Stark, ii. p. 292.)

I only identified one of these birds, but I believe that they were common. I overlooked them till just before they left in the autumn.

73. *HIRUNDO CUCULLATA*. (Stark, ii. p. 298.)

Very common. I found one nest with a curved tunnel to it. When the young were hatched, the parents broke a hole in the bowl and added a second tunnel, which was straight. I suppose that the parents found the curve awkward when they had to feed the young so often.

74. *PETROCHELIDON SPILODERA*. (Stark, ii. p. 304.)

A colony of this Swallow occupied the underside of an arch of a railway-bridge near Aliwal North. There must have been at least eighty nests.

75. *UPUPA AFRICANA*, Bechst. (S. & L. p. 134.)

Fairly common.

76. *CYPSELUS AFRICANUS*.

77. *CYPSELUS BARBATUS*.

Cypselus apus, S. & L. p. 90.

Flocks of both these Swifts appeared periodically for a few hours.

78. *CYPSELUS CAFFER*. (S. & L. p. 92.)

I noticed a few pairs of this Swift all through the summer. They must have nested here, I think.

79. *CAPRIMULGUS EUROPEUS*. (S. & L. p. 83.)

A native shewed me two young of this Nightjar just hatched. The old bird rose as we came up; she was brown, without white spots, and larger than the next species*.

80. *CAPRIMULGUS RUFIGENA*. (S. & L. p. 85.)

Very common.

81. *MEROPS APIASTER*. (S. & L. p. 96.)

The Bee-eater was common, and nested in holes in the banks of the donga. It appeared to be fond of locusts, and of a humming grasshopper, which lived among the willows.

82. *CERYLE RUDIS*. (S. & L. p. 110.)

Fairly common; when surprised it flew about making a kind of rippling whistle.

83. *HALCYON ALBIVENTRIS*. (S. & L. p. 115.)

I never actually saw this species near the Orange River, but frequently heard its loud cry. This I at once recognised when I heard it again near Port Elizabeth, where I saw and identified the bird.

84. *COLIUS CAPENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 552.)

Very common, generally in family-parties. It frequently utters a loud rapidly repeated metallic note. Sometimes two or three may be seen hanging together on a branch at the full length of their legs. Flight fairly rapid and straight, though rarely sustained beyond one hundred yards. One day I was chasing a Monitor, when it suddenly ran up a

* [This bird probably belonged to another species, as the European Nightjar has never been known to breed in South Africa.—W. L. S.]

bush about fifteen feet high. I tried to shake it off, when out flew a Coly from another branch. I climbed up and found a nest with three hard-set eggs. This was on the 4th of March. The eggs and nest reminded me very much of those of our Greenfinch, but the eggs were rather larger and the nest more solidly built, being made of sticks and lined with wool.

85. *GEOCOLAPTES OLIVACEUS*. (S. & L. p. 187.)

Fairly common, and generally seen in pairs or in small family-parties. It flies with a whirry jerky sort of flight. The note is a loud "ki ki."

86. *DENDROPICUS CARDINALIS*. (S. & L. p. 190.)

Not very common, and always seen singly. Its call is rather like that of the Cape Robin-Chat, but louder. It is usually found among the willows.

87. *TRICHOLEMA LEUCOMELAS*. (S. & L. p. 173.)

Very common, and at once recognised by its cry, which is like the French word "pain." It is more often heard than seen. A pair nested in a hole in a tree about a foot deep three feet from the ground.

88. *COCCYSTES HYPOPINARIUS* Cab. et Heine.

Coccytes jacobinus S. & L. p. 158.

I saw one of these Cuckoos on January 26th. I was attracted by its cry, which is rather like the alarm-note of a Cape Robin-Chat, but loud and harsh. It flew from bush to bush, after which I noticed it alight on the ground beside a Pied Starling and drive it away. It then followed it into a bush, screeching and jostling it. This time the Starling went to a post; the Cuckoo once more followed and settled on the top of the Starling, screeching at it and driving it away again.

89. *COCCYSTES SERRATUS*. (S. & L. p. 160.)

I saw a pair on Dec. 21st; they were on the bark near the top of a tree. The notes were "wicky wooky" and "tock," followed by a Tit-like call.

90. *CHRYSOCOCCYX SMARAGDINEUS.* (S. & L. p. 151.)

I only saw this bird once at close quarters. This was on the 16th of March. It was perched on some heath.

91. *NEOPHRON PERCNOPTERUS.* (S. & L. p. 6.)

Occasionally seen hovering overhead.

92. *SERPENTARIUS SECRETARIUS.* (S. & L. p. 8.)

A pair of these birds built their nest in a bush about ten feet from the ground. Unfortunately the eggs were stolen.

93. *MELIERAX CANORUS.* (S. & L. p. 17.)

One of these Hawks used frequently to feed on the bank of the river close to a blockhouse.

94. *HALIAËTUS VOCIFER.* (S. & L. p. 46.)

I once saw what I believed to be this Sea-Eagle scouring along a rocky ridge. It passed close to me several times, and chased a Hawk to within about thirty yards of me.

95. *ELANUS CÆRULEUS.* (S. & L. p. 52.)

Fairly common. Very fond of perching on the telephone-wire.

96. *TINNUNCULUS RUPICOLA.* (S. & L. p. 62.)

Very common. It nested in the cliffs and often allowed a near approach.

97. *TINNUNCULUS RUPICOLOIDES.* (S. & L. p. 63.)

Some of my men took a pair of these Kestrels from their nest in a cranny in the cliffs. They were kept a long time and became fairly tame. A few flight-feathers were pulled out, but when these grew again the birds flew off, though they came back for food for some time afterwards.

98. *BUBO MACULOSUS.* (S. & L. p. 73.)

Very common. One of these Owls was caught when coming after some domestic Pigeons, and soon became quite tame. I often saw them out in broad daylight. They can be heard calling in the tops of trees an hour before sunset.

99. *COLUMBA PHÆONOTA.* (S. & L. p. 559.)

Very common. There were at least a pair on every deserted farm. One pair built on the top of an old Red-

winged Starling's nest at a mill on the river-bank. A great many nested and roosted on the cliffs. A flock might always be found on the mules' manure-heap outside the camp, and in the hard weather must have numbered two hundred or more.

100. *COLUMBA ARQUATRIX*. (S. & L. p. 561.)

I saw one or two in the autumn in the bushes. I suppose that they were feeding on the berries, but they never let me get close enough to see.

101. *TURTUR SEMITORQUATUS*. (S. & L. p. 566.)

I believe that I saw these Doves, but I am not quite certain.

102. *TURTUR CAPICOLA*. (S. & L. p. 567.)

These birds were very common, the bush being full of them. They are locally known as "Twǒ-tǒ-oně bār ōne," because of the note.

103. *TURTUR SENEGALENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 568.)

Common. Frequently seen feeding at the outspans with the Doves above mentioned.

104. *CENA CAPENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 572.)

Very common and always in great numbers about the horse-lines. In spite of its long tail and short wings, it seems to be able to fly pretty fast. The nest is very small and frail, generally placed low down in a bush (about two to four feet from the ground), without much attempt at concealment. Eggs cream-coloured.

105. *PTEROCLURUS NAMAQUA*. (S. & L. p. 574.)

These birds began to arrive about the middle of May. Their cry once heard is not easily forgotten. Several flocks were invariably to be found in a certain old mealie-field, in spite of our shooting two or three individuals almost every morning.

106. *FRANCOLINUS LEVAILLANTI*. (S. & L. p. 596.)

Very common. I found a nest with a fresh egg in it on Dec. 16th. I also saw young able to fly well about the same time. Moreover, I saw young only a few weeks old

in June; so it looks as if they breed all the year round. I shot one bird whose crop was so crammed with bulbs that it burst on striking the ground.

107. *COTURNIX CAPENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 603.)

Fairly common. Arrived early in April. I generally found it on the edge of the bush or on old "lands."

108. *NUMIDA CORONATA*. (S. & L. p. 581.)

Huge flocks of Guinea-fowl lived amongst the bushes on the north bank of the river. They roosted on the trees and packed very closely on the branches.

109. *FULICA CRISTATA*. (S. & L. p. 621.)

There were always a good many on the large dam.

110. *COMPSOTIS LEUCOPTERA*.

Otis afroides S. & L. p. 642.

On March 7th I put up five of these birds. They went away crying "kuk-knock-me-down" very distinctly. These were the words I had used to describe the cry before I saw Layard's account.

111. *HETEROTETRAX VIGORSI* (Smith).

Otis scolopacea S. & L. p. 637.

This was the common Knorhaan on the Orange River. Its cry is "kuk-koraan, kuk-koraan," but it sometimes rises silently.

112. *TRACHELOTIS CÆRULESCENS* (Vicill.).

Otis verreauxi S. & L. p. 639.

This species was fairly common, if, as I suppose, it was our small rufous Bustard.

113. *ŒDICNEMUS CAPENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 645.)

I saw several pairs, sometimes on the river-bank amongst the bush, sometimes in the open, and sometimes on rough hill-sides.

114. *CURSORIUS RUFUS*. (S. & L. p. 653.)

Very common in autumn and winter, but I only saw a few pairs in summer: it runs a short distance and then stops and stands upright: when it rises it makes a good deal of noise, but is easy to approach.

115. RHINOPTILUS BICINCTUS. (S. & L. p. 654.)

Very common and unsuspecting. In summer it often makes a great deal of noise when on the ground. Usually seen in pairs or family-parties. In autumn I found it singly or in pairs and very silent.

116. RHINOPTILUS CHALCOPTERUS. (S. & L. p. 656.)

I first noticed the Bronze-winged Courser on March 30th at the edge of the bush by the river. It allowed me to approach very closely before taking to the wing, and then it only fluttered a few yards into the bush. I frequently saw one or more about the same place from March till April 17th, when I shot one in the open, close to the Stormberg spruit.

117. GLAREOLA MELANOPTERA. (S. & L. p. 650.)

I frequently saw these birds passing overhead in December and January, and also observed them occasionally on the ground. I never remember seeing them after locusts. I shot a pair out of a flock that were feeding at the edge of some flooded ground on Jan. 10th.

118. STEPHANIBYX CORONATUS.

Chettusia coronata S. & L. p. 670.

Very common. This Plover usually rises the first time it is put up well within shot. As it rises it utters a harsh quack.

119. ÆGIALITIS TRICOLLARIS. (S. & L. p. 662.)

Very common. The note is a sharp squeak, often heard in the middle of the night.

120. ÆGIALITIS PECUARIA. (S. & L. p. 661.)

I shot one of these Sand-Plovers out of a party feeding on the edge of some flooded ground on January 10th, and another on May 10th. These are the only two occasions on which I came across this species.

121. TOTANUS CALIDRIS. (S. & L. p. 688.)

I often saw a bird which, if it was not a Redshank, was extremely like it, but its legs were dull red instead of orange-red. I used to see it at the mouth of a donga, as well as on the sandbanks in the river and at the water's edge.

122. *TOTANUS STAGNATILIS*. (S. & L. p. 690.)

I saw an individual of this species on Jan. 1st walking about in a small pool. I watched it catch and eat a small fish.

+123. *TOTANUS CANESCENS*. (S. & L. p. 687.)

Common. Usually seen singly, but about the middle of February I saw a considerable flock by the large dam.

124. *HERODIAS ALBA*. (S. & L. p. 714.)

I only once saw this fine bird, on the 1st of March; it was standing at the edge of the large dam.

125. *NYCTICORAX GRISEUS*. (S. & L. p. 724.)

I occasionally put up one of these birds when walking through the bush. I often saw them at the large dam.

126. *SCOPUS UMBRETTA*. (S. & L. p. 725.)

Common. I saw several of its huge nests on a rocky ledge.

127. *CICONIA ALBA*. (S. & L. p. 728.)

I saw twenty-three White Storks by the large dam on Feb. 17th. They stayed there some days. They allowed me to approach within twenty yards of them.

128. *PLECTROPTERUS GAMBENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 746.)

I saw a Spur-winged Goose on Jan. 7th standing on the sandbank in the middle of the river preening its feathers.

129. *CHENALOPEX ÆGYPTIACA*. (S. & L. p. 747.)

Common. A pair nested at the large dam. I saw them with five tiny goslings on Feb. 17th. The call, when about to rise, is a loud "kor kor."

130. *CASARCA CANA*. (S. & L. p. 753.)

Common in autumn. The call when about to rise is a loud musical "kor kor." An officer who knows this Duck well tells me that he found one sitting on its nest among the rocks above the river at a place fifteen miles east of Aliwal North.

131. *ANAS SPARSA*. (S. & L. p. 756.)

Very common. Almost always in pairs. I believe that

a pair nested up a donga on the north bank, because they were there all the summer and used to swim about at the mouth of it in the evening. The Black Duck may often be seen flying about in the middle of the day.

132. *QUERQUEDULA CAPENSIS*. (S. & L. p. 758.)

I saw a small flock of the Cape Teal paddling about at the edge of the large dam on the 20th of May.

133. *PÆCILONETTA ERYTHORHYNCHA*. (S. & L. p. 754.)

A flock of Red-billed Teal used to feed on a sandbank in the river every night, leaving soon after dawn.

134. *PODICIPES CRISTATUS*. (S. & L. p. 785.)

One seen in the middle of the large dam early in April.

135. *STRUTHIO AUSTRALIS*. (S. & L. p. 791.)

I occasionally saw one or two Ostriches on the north bank of the river. All were probably escaped birds.

XXI.--*Remarks on the Type-specimens of certain Birds named by the late Carl Peter Thunberg.* By DR. EINAR LÖNNBERG, C.M.Z.S.

IN the Zoological Museum of the Royal University of Upsala there still exist certain specimens of birds which were named and described by Carl Peter Thunberg. I have recently examined these types, which are the more important as Thunberg's names have been almost entirely unknown to and disregarded by later authors, even in such an important work as the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum.' Thunberg was not an ornithologist *ex professo*, and in his various papers he sometimes erred in naming, and describing as new, birds which were already known and described, in certain cases even by Linnæus. In some instances, nevertheless, Thunberg's names have priority, and must have their rights, after the descriptions have been compared with the still existing and labelled type-specimens, which have been examined and determined.